

Multi-Stakeholder Process as a tool for facilitating Research Integration: Lessons from Cameroon

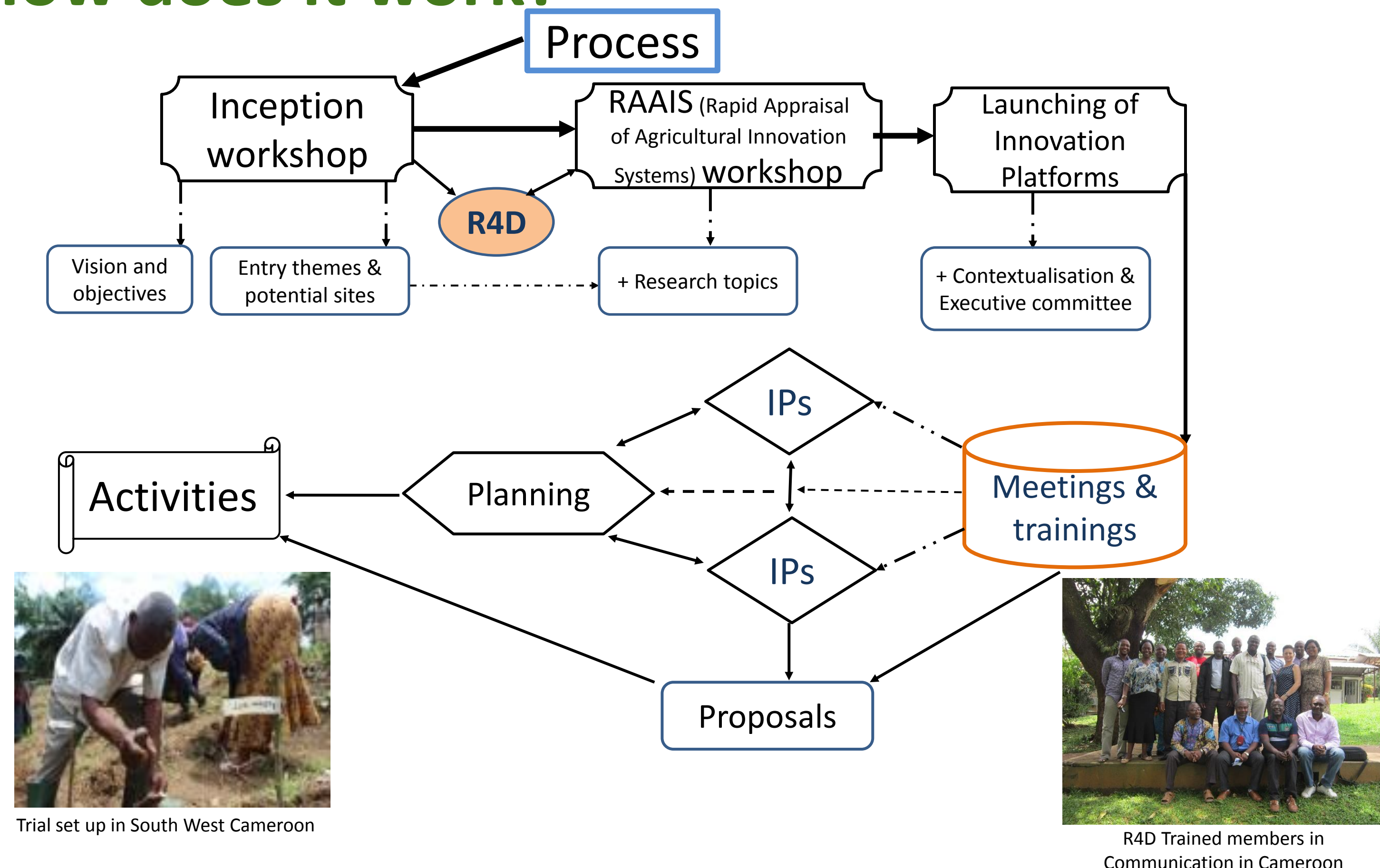
Introducing the legacy product

Multi-stakeholder processes (MSP) are increasingly seen as a promising vehicle for agricultural innovation in developing countries. MSP and its instruments such as Research for Development Platforms (R4D) and Innovation Platforms (IP) could play a strategic role in the transformation of Africa's agriculture. However, the implementation of MSP in innovation system thinking to improve livelihoods is still not fully understood in terms of process and outcomes. This poster is building on two years constructive analysis of the influence of MSP in Cameroon on research integration with a diversity of stakeholders and how this impacted their efficiency in integrated systems research under Humidtropics in Cameroon.

Utility of the legacy product

This LP documents the process and outcomes in innovation systems thinking that promotes knowledge exchange and learning among stakeholders. This may happen through soft transfer (Paulré, 2004), co-creation (Kilelu et al., 2013, Schut et al., 2015) or community-based activities at the more operational level (Waters-Bayer et al., 2015). The three processes correspond respectively to knowledge transfer or internalization, knowledge hybridization and knowledge externalization and can occur simultaneously within MSPs, depending on the type of activities to be implemented.

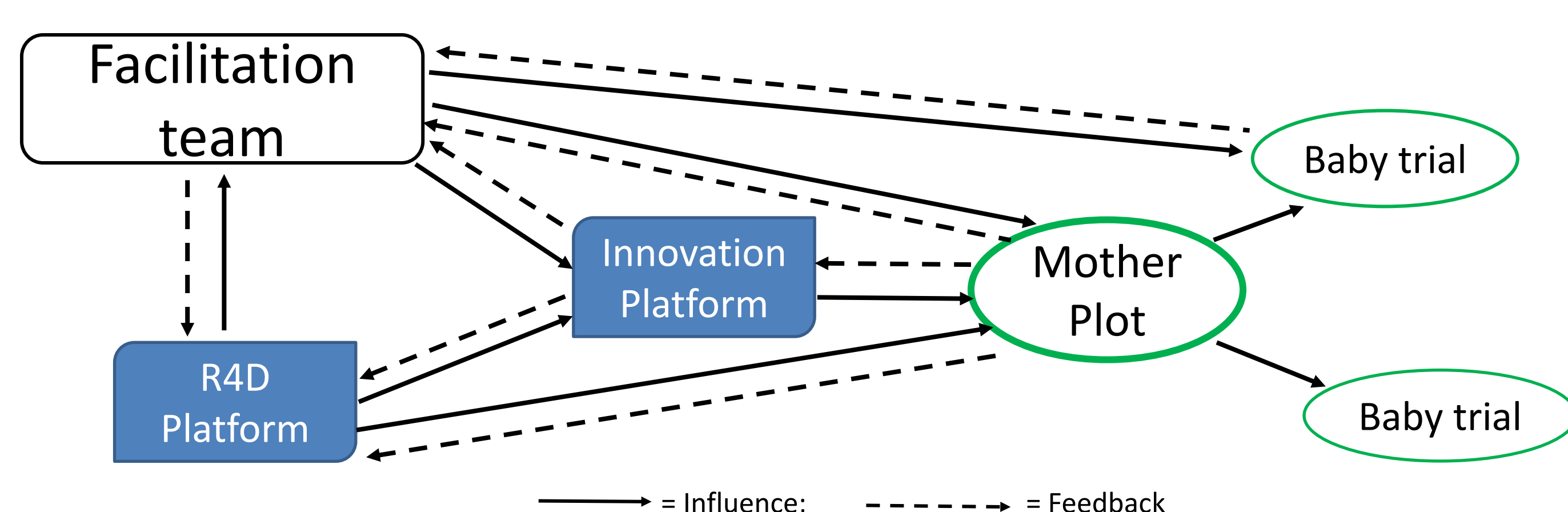
How does it work?



Stakeholders and engagements

| R4D level (active members) | |
|--|---|
| Institutions | Roles / Activities |
| CGIAR centres (IITA, ICRAF, AVRDC) | Coordinate research activities (based on expertise and field site), disseminate innovations |
| NARS (IRAD) | Coordinate research activities (based on expertise), link R4D with IPs |
| Universities (Buea, Dschang, Yaounde 1 and 2) | Contribute in the supervision of students involved in Humidtropics activities |
| Ministries (MINADER) | Guide with relevant policies, assist in identification of stakeholders and activities. |
| CBO/Local NGO (CASD, NOWEFOR, Key Farmers) | Mobilize IP members, coordinate/ supervise activities, do follow-up, link with expertise |
| IP level (mainly facilitator or executive committee members) | |
| ➤ Teach and advise | ➤ Facilitate information between IP & stakeholders |
| ➤ Provide follow-up and orientation | ➤ Serving link between IP members and the R4D |

Interrelation among the Components



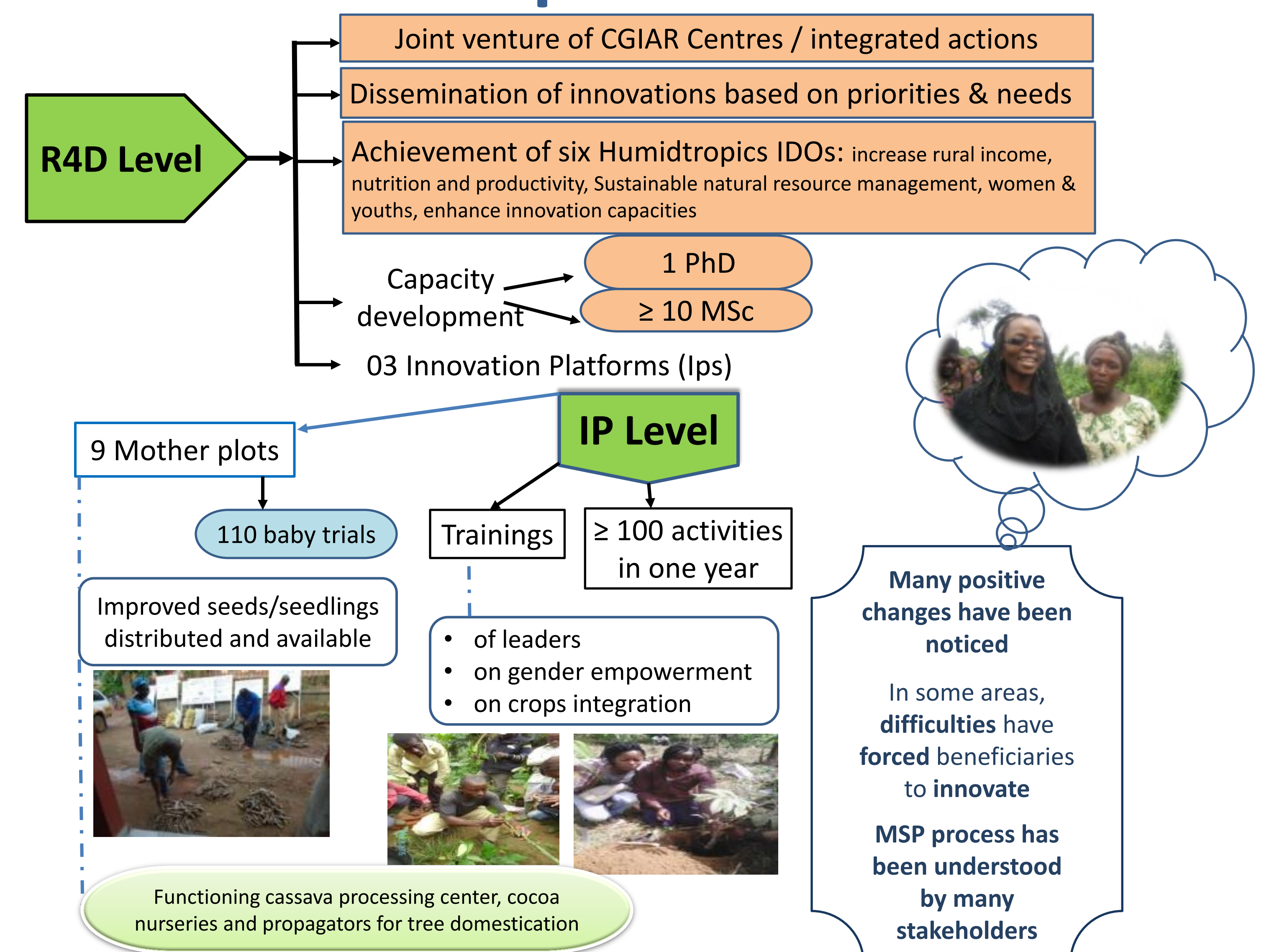
Key contacts

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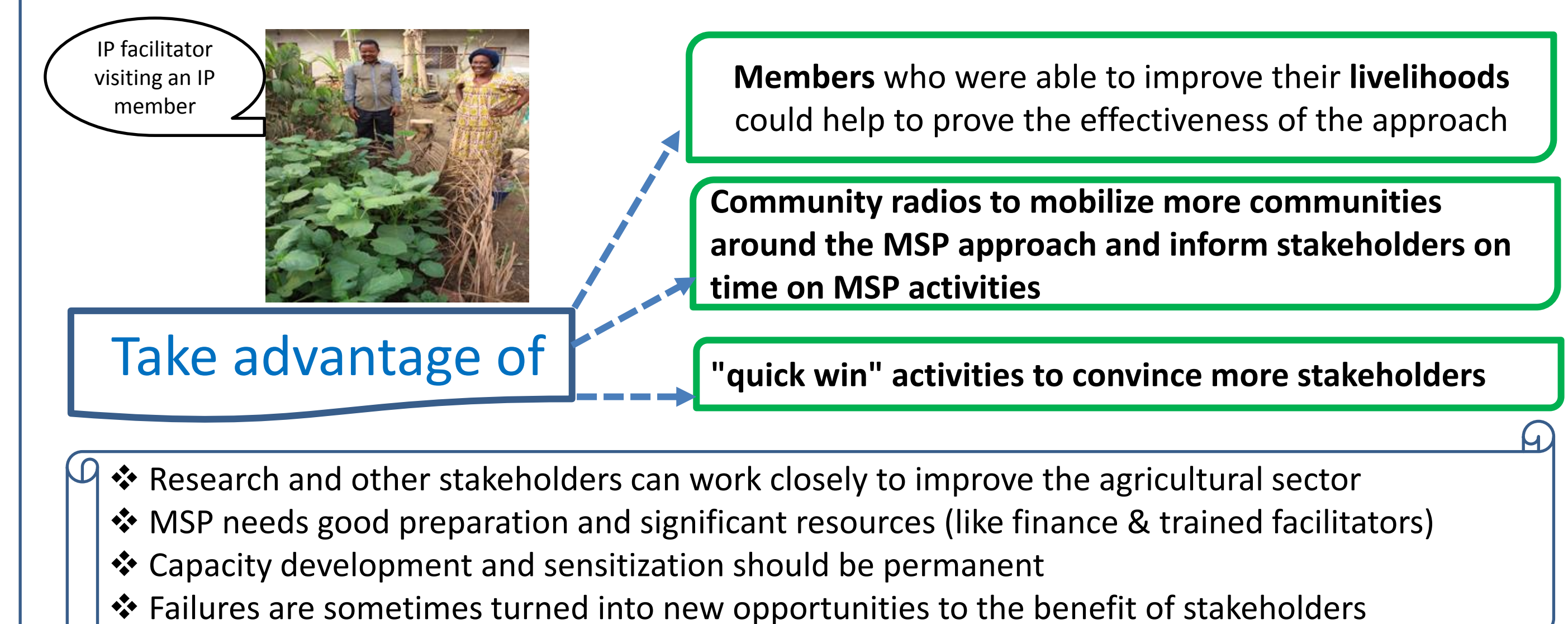
Results and outputs



Lessons

- MSPs help to improve agricultural productivity in Africa
- Arena to share vision among stakeholders and develop interventions of mutual benefit through co-creation and community-led action research
- Arena to adapt technologies to existing local conditions
- MSPs help to build formal and informal relationships and to develop mutual/interpersonal trust between researchers and other stakeholders

We suggest more investments in MSPs to enable the development and effective dissemination of agricultural innovations, thus fostering pro-poor growth and improving farmers' livelihoods.



Potential users of this legacy product

MSP could be used to mainstream CAADP and country NAFSIP; Projects and programs in CAADP countries, NGOs and Community development programs; or by the AFS CRP during delivery and dissemination of technologies; or by the AfDB TAAT and AARP.

Key partners

ICRAF, IITA, IRAD, FARA, CASD – NGO, KEY FARMERS ORGANIZATION, NOWEFOR, AVRDC, MINADER, UNIVERSITIES OF DSCHANG, YAOUNDE II, BUEA

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